**"Thank You Very Much"... Oh, the Irony**

I think by now we've all heard the commercial (on radio and television) from Visa Gift Cards; using the song "Thank You Very Much" from one of the better musical versions of A Christmas Carol, entitled Scrooge. (The film version with Albert Finney is excellent.)

Has it struck anyone *else* that their choice of music is a bit morbid, or at the very least, ironic? In the musical, the people are singing and dancing their hearts out in gratitude for Ebenezer's *death*. The assembled throng all owed him money, so they dance a merry jig (not to mention on his coffin) as they cart him off to the cemetery. So now we have a credit card company advertising a gift card using a song about people's debt being wiped out by the moneylender's death. Huh.

\*\*Irony Detector readings coming in clearly now... we have a 7.1: Not quite Gift of the Magi, but more ironic than some episodes of the original Twilight Zone.\*\*